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BOTANICAL

Centennial Tree Planting.

1776. 1876. 1976.

This historic year suggests special duties and opportunities to the teachers and youth of Connecticut. American History, too much neglected in our schools, should now enlist greater interest and attention. These centennial anniversaries and celebrations can be made to foster a historic spirit and give to this important study greater vividness, and honor, and value. But while studying the annals of the past, our pupils should be encouraged to do something for the future. There is no better way to honor the heroes of 1776 than by some good deeds whose fruit may survive 1976. One way in which any boy may accomplish this result is by planting a thrifty elm or oak.

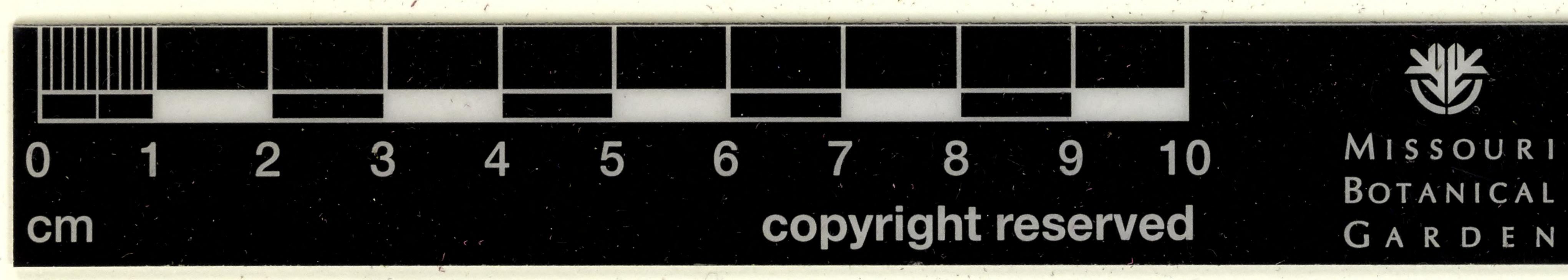
Tree-planting is fitted to give a lesson of forethought to the juvenile mind. Living solely in the present and for the present, too many youth will sow, only where they can shortly reap. A meager crop, soon in hand, outweighs a golden harvest long in maturing. As short-sightedness is the danger of youth, they should learn that forecasting the future is the condition of wisdom. Arboriculture is a discipline in foresight, for it is always planting for the future and often for the distant future. To do something in this centennial year which may live on in 1976, will be a healthful aspiration to any youth. Washington Irving well says of tree-planting, "There is a grandeur of thought connected with this heroic line of husbandry. It is worthy of liberal and free-born and aspiring men. He who plants an oak looks forward to future ages and plants for posterity, exulting in the idea that the acorn which he has buried in the earth shall grow up into a lofty pile and shall keep on flourishing and increasing and benefitting mankind long after he has ceased to tread his paternal fields." It would be a grand achievement for this centennial year, if a genuine interest in arboriculture can be awakened in all our towns. To this end our pupils should observe all the common trees so as readily to recognize them by any one of the six most distinctive marks. If fit lessons were early given on the varieties and value, the beauty and grandeur of our majestic trees, our youth could hardly fail to admire and enjoy them, and then to plant and protect them. The planting of one hundred thousand trees by the wayside (and that would be forty thousand less than one for each pupil and teacher) would ultimately make the roads and streets of Connecticut by far the most beautiful in America. If private taste, public spirit, town pride and the sentiment of patriotism to our State could be duly enlisted in connection with the certainty of pecuniary profit and the manifold personal advantage of every citizen, our streets would become bowers of beauty and verdure. Nothing can add so great a charm to our country roads or village streets, as long and magnificent avenues of stately elms and maples, such as may already be seen in many beautiful towns in Connecticut. But there remain some desolate, neglected, repulsive, leafless villages, where taste and trees, and shrubbery, hedges, creeping vines and a park or green, would make the wilderness blossom as the rose.

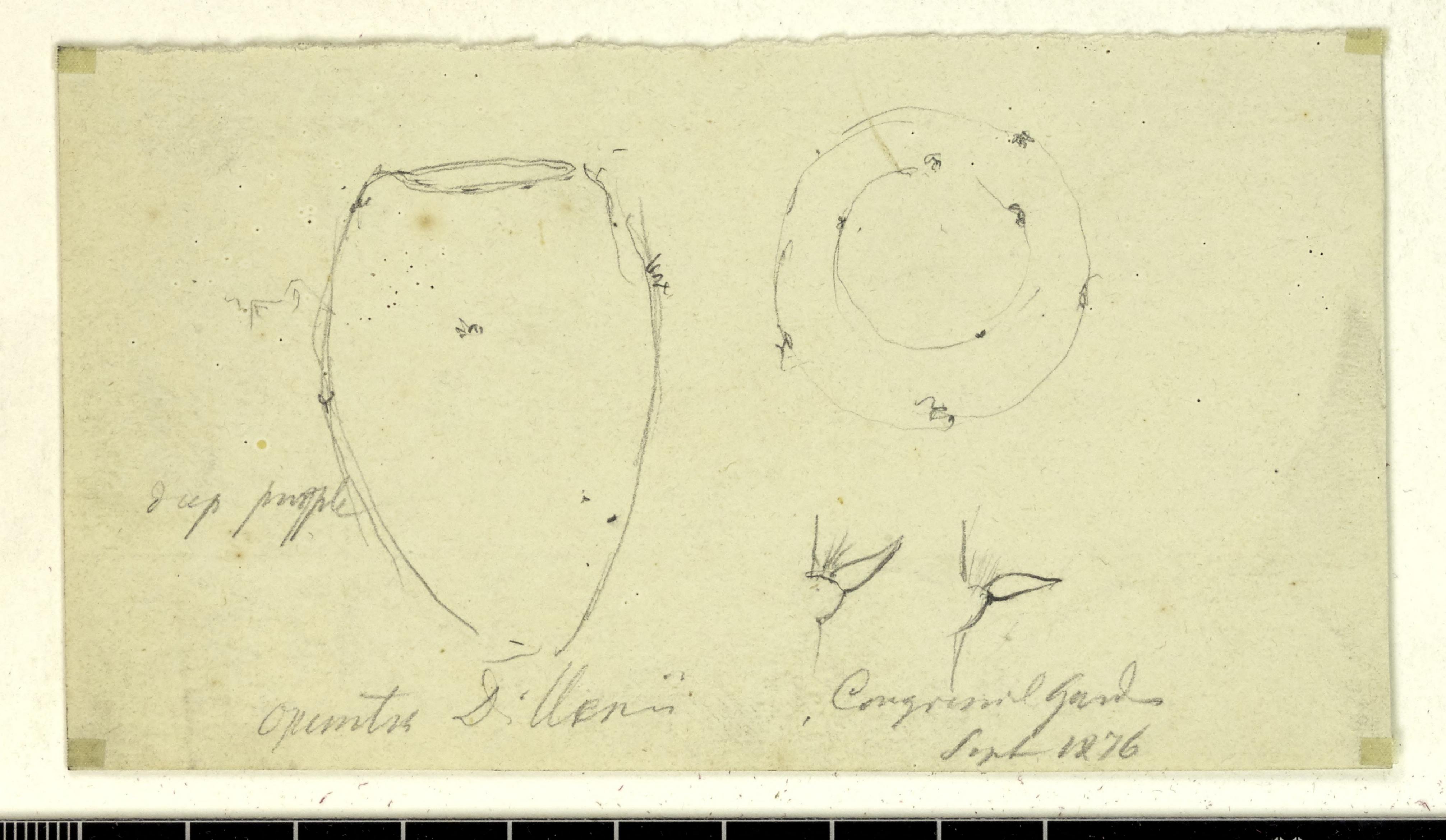
June 15 1876 pean age - in my garden. Toints, smiller than all the other Opentie, executive, executive. most like Utchensis but leaves larger, thickens; joints Thinner, flatter, not tuberalet fatile in Mahous is the Young I frients obirales, about 2 while long, and almost es erike. less 2-2/2 line long \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ Dowo 6 Ciris apart - dears of Utahunis are as long and only is as thick.

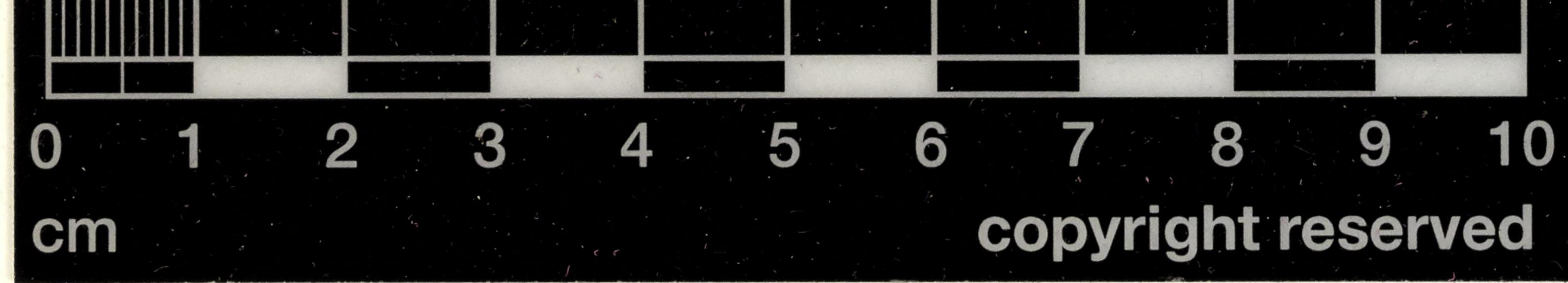
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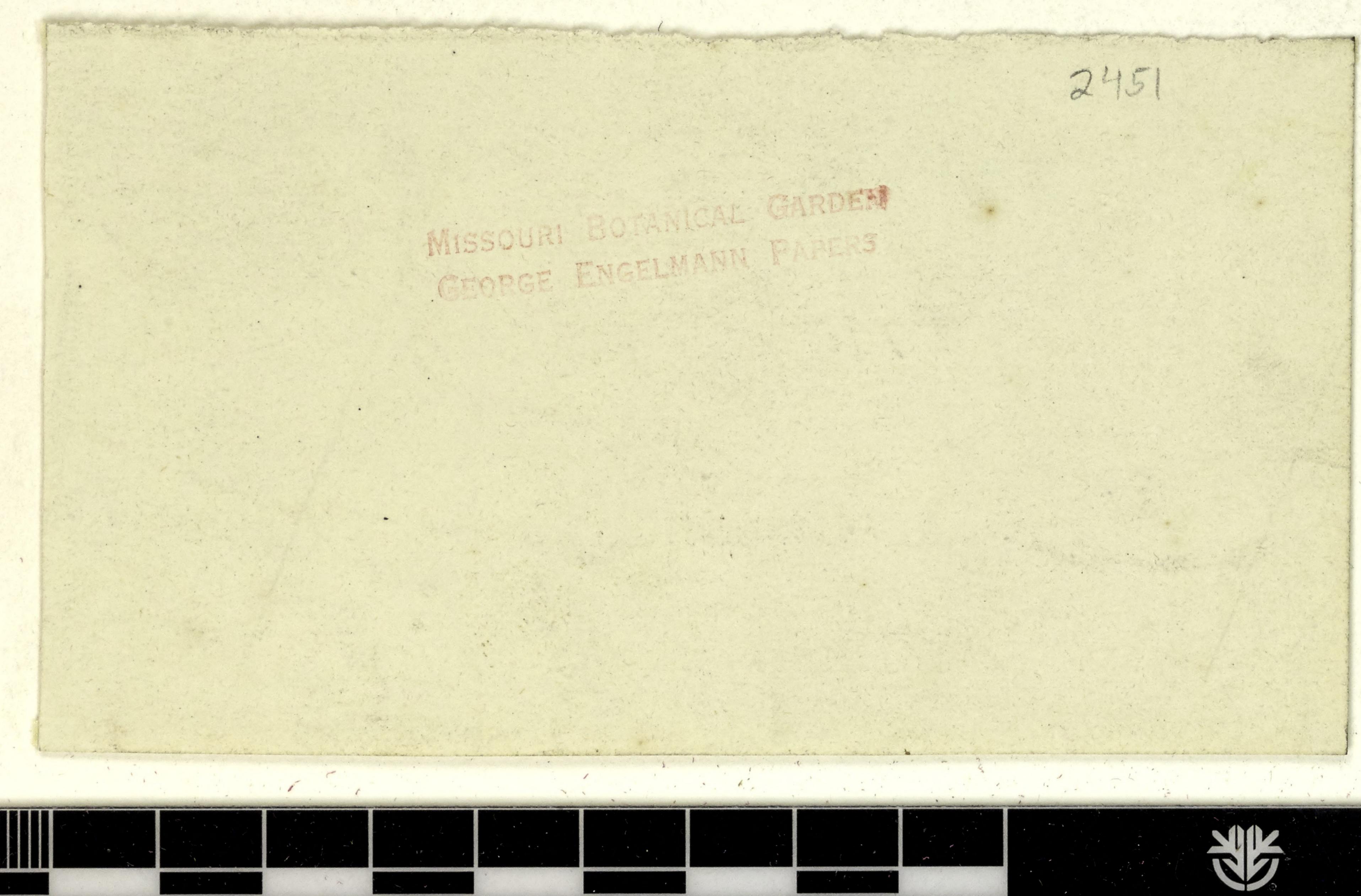
MISSON DOTANICAL GARDEN TURGE LINGELMANN PARERS Dear Dochu plaints splan of in Im Whiley letter on regulation from form at Jun Santiest convaniance all that pur hant.













Evening Visitor Sur

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1876.

AUEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.

anst, Isaac C. Martindale made some remarks | spread any, shows no sign of disappearing. on the genus Opuntia, the only representative In comparing this plant with specimens ing the characters as pointed out.

about 800 species, chiefly natives of tropical yellow, the fruit smoothish, about an inch in low countries, and the western part of the United length and half an inch in thickness, some- wri States, where many grow to an immense size. The only representative of this large order in the Northern United States, east of the Mississippi, is the gerus Opuntia The only species len off, from one eighth to one quarter of an Ch of this genus described in the old works on inch in depth. The Opuntia Rafinesquii has Ne the Flora of this section was the so-called rather larger flowers, occasionally with a pre-Opuntia Vulgaris, from Massachusetts and southward, mostly near the coast; in the new edition of Gray's Manual, the Opuntia Missouriensis, a western species, having dry, prick- top in the specimens examined not so deep as ies sin, a. d. Opuntia Tafinesquii, with smooth, er green appearance, the leaves more slender, no of the genus, after comparing specimens from is I have only from the Falls of the l'otomac no reference to any. There is growing in the su and South Carolina."

July I again examined the plant, then in full fruit, and my former conclusion was sustained. I also sert a fully developed specimen to Dr. true Opuntia Vulgaris, which he had not New Jersey.

MR. I. C. MARTINDALE AT THE AC- seen north of the Falls of the Potomac, and asks if it is a real native of New Jersey. On that point I think there can be no doubt, as THE the owner of the land, John Gill, informs me At a meeting of the Academy of Natural | it has been there to his knowledge at least Sciences of Philadelphia on Tuesday, the 15th | 25 years, and while it does not incline to

in New Jersey of the large order Cactacæ. growing near the coast, and which appear to Mr. Martindale is a close observer and a good be the Opuntia Rafinesquii, the following the botanist, and as many of our readers are in- characters appear: The Opuntia Vulgaris Ohi terested in botany, and this has a direct bear- has a pule green appearance, the flat joints Lea ing on the flora of New Jersey, we publish our with small ovate subulate leaves, stout rece his remarks as near in full as we could gath- and tapering from a broadish base, mostly Ne er them. There were specimens of leaves and less than one fourth of an inch in length, and the fruit mounted on cardboard exhibited, show- appressed to the joint, with a fascicle of mi- son nutely barbed bristles, and occasionally a Oh The large natural order Cactacæ comprises | spine in their axils; the flowers are sulphur | the what ventricose, or largest just above the middle and tapering to the base, with a de- lus pression at the top where the flower has fal- syl reddish centre, more numerous petals, the and fruit fully one and a half inches in length, tec with an elongated base, the depression in the tio ly fruit, is admitted as occurring in Wiscon- in the Vulgaris; the older joints have a dark- les pulpy fruit, similar in this respect to Opuntia longer, rom one quarter to three eighths of an lov Vulgaris, also in the western section from inch in length, and spreading, and more fre- are Wisconsin to Kentucky. Dr. George Engel- quently with the large spine, particularly str mann, of St. Louis, in a recent examination about the top of the joint. I have ex- ha amined specimens from Woodbury, about 12 in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and miles from the Haddonfield locality, which th New Jersey, heretofore classed as Opuntia are Opuntia Rafinesquii, and which have er Vulgaris, determines them to be identical with | fusiform tubers on the extremities of the | ge Opuntia Rafinesquii from the west. In a re- roots, similar in this respect to a western form | co cent note from him he says: "I have speci- of Rafinesquii, described in the Pacific R. R. be mens growing here from Massachusetts, New Reports as O. fusiformis. I have not been cer York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and able to find tubers on the Vulgaris, and the du they are all Opuntia Rafinesquii; the Vulgar- published descriptions of that species make vi Meehan nurseries, near Germantown, a speci- an In June last I collected near Haddonfield, men of Opuntia Rafinesquii from New Jersey, a N. J., some specimens of Opuntia in flower, which is identical with one from Illinois; the which, on examination and comparison with also a specimen of Opuntia Vulgaris from Th the species as figured in the 4th volume of the | Harper's Ferry, which is identical with the | the Pacific Railroad Reports, I determined to be one collected near Haddonfield. These two me the Opuntia Vulgaris. In the latter part of species are somewhat closely allied, yet the sion form and position of the leaves are very manifest, and being early deciduous it is possible ma is the cause of their being so long confounded. Certain it is, that if the two species as de- in I Engelmann, who pronounced it to be the scribed are distinct, we have both of them in

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ening Visitor Supplement.

upon mands, I may say that it is almost unknown the in the institution.

nade The girls' school, near Trenton, is small, he now numbering but 23 pupils, and the exby each a measure of personal attention, which elve- would be impossible were the number quadund rupled. She governs as a wise, conscientious loys, mother would, giving way to to excitement hem of temper, but inflexibly keeping in view the med requirements of duty. Encouraging the joy. es. ousness of romping girlhood, participating in try their fancy work and other pleasures, they they know that the sterner tasks the imposes, the lick- labor and the study, are also for their good ease. and dictated by a loving, maternal heart. ex. When she enforces upon them the obligations t be of the golden rule, they are not startled, for that they feel that she exemplifies it in her own "re- treatment of them.

Confinement to her room is sometimes reives scrted to when a girl gives way to improper nced temper or conduct, but no punishment has eted been used to which a judicious mother would r 10 object. Thou hadst not an opportunity to the witness the teaching in the Bible class. a know the thorough, practical application of be- the truths of Holy Writ to the varied needs er of of life would have gratified thee greatly. I to should have said that the officers of the ent- school are all ladies.

When the matron considers any girl prequi- pared to leave the school, she and the lady life managers endeavor to secure for her a home hed where she will be shielded, as far as may be, eant from dangerous associates and the teachings col- of the institution will be continued. In most THE FIFTEEN YOUNG-LADIES PROBLEM. sted cases this effort has been successful, but in a He few instances cold selfishness and indiffertur- ence on the part of the employers, or their se- own imperfections, have marred the good a rule has been laid down that they shall walk cere work. Of a number of the girls their mis-He | tresses give the most gratifying assurances of | in the same row." The rule is supposed to rther their excellent deportment.

GEORGE ELIOT'S NOVEL of Daniel Deronroved da is now all out in England with the excep-Six | :ion of one book. The last book published le in- is called "Mother and Son," and its contents i of the are thus summed up by the Athenæum: on the fifteen young-ladies problem and a aine "Mr. Grandcourt is dead; killed! Gwendo

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ting. family of fifty boys (the father and mother be- len's own account of the death makes it an ce is ling absent) with no officer in the building, accident -he was knocked overboard by the con- He gave satisfaction in his charge of them sail in 'coming about,' when only the two of de day and night, for, I think, two weeks, of them were out sailing. She might have saved ecord course having regular relief and the frequent him by throwing him a rope, for which he ppro- oversight of the superintendent. Of insub- cried; she did not, and is haunted by his nsel. ordination, a refusal to obey proper com- drowning face. She loves Deronda, but still without admitting it completely to herself Deronda loves Mirah, also without full acknowledgement. Deronda has had an interview with his mother, Princess Halm-Eberstein, a Jewess by race, and formerly a great Thus cellent matron is therefore able to give to singer. Her first husband was a Jew, and Deronda was their legitimate son, though Deronda is not his real name." The Athenæum pronounces the book a failure, and unworthy of the powers of George Eliot. The Spectator is of a different opinion, however. It says none of her previous books have been so powerfully constructed in point of plot, and in none of them has there been a religious element, a faith in an omniscient higher power, developed with such surprising force

WHAT THE BULLET SANG.

| Bret Hart in Harper's Weekly.] O joy of creation, O rapture to fly And be free! Be the battle lost or won, Though its smoke shall hide the sun. I shall find my Love—the one Born tor me!

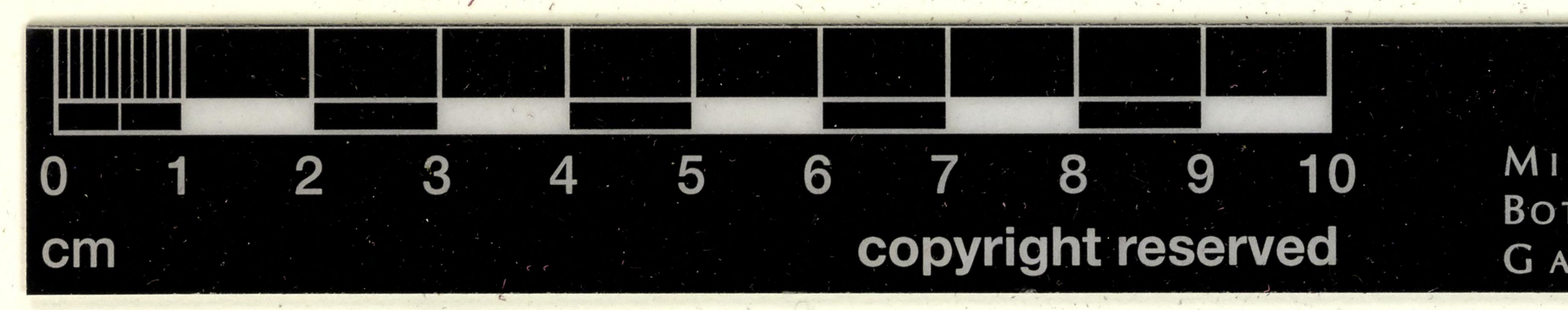
I shall know him where he stands, All alone, With the power in his hands Not o'erthrown; I shall know him by his face, By his godlike front and grace; I shall hold him for a space, All my own!

It is he—O my Love! So bold! It is I-all thy love Foretold! It is I. O Love, what bliss! Dost thou answer to my kiss? Ah, sweetheart, what is this? Lieth there So cold!

From the Scientific Miscellany.

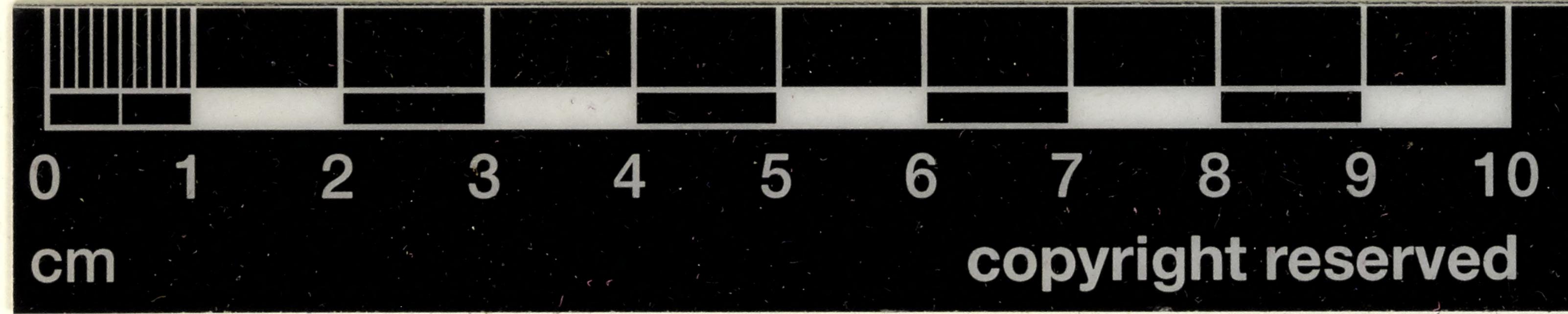
The London Mathematical Society lately occupied itself with the discussion of the following problem: "In a school of fifteen girls out every day in rows of threes, but that the same two girls shall never come together twice have been carried out correctly during the six working days of the week, but when Sunday comes it is found impossible to send the girls to church without breaking the rule. This problem was announced more than a quarter of a century ago; and has engaged the attention of distinguished mathematicians, for the reason that its solution involves the use of mathematical synthesis. Prof. Sylvester's paper, in which the subject was discussed, was general mathematical theory of pure syntax."

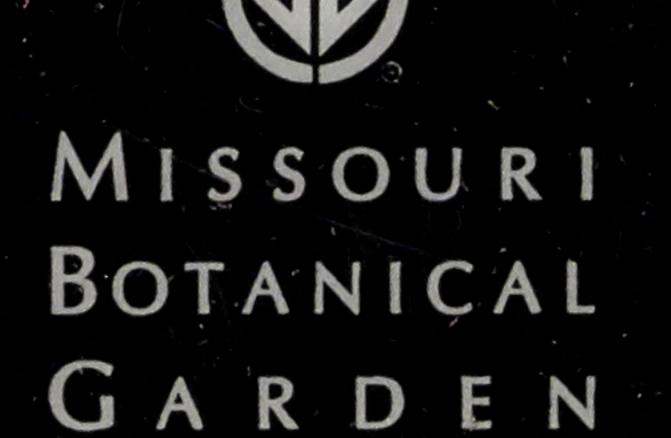
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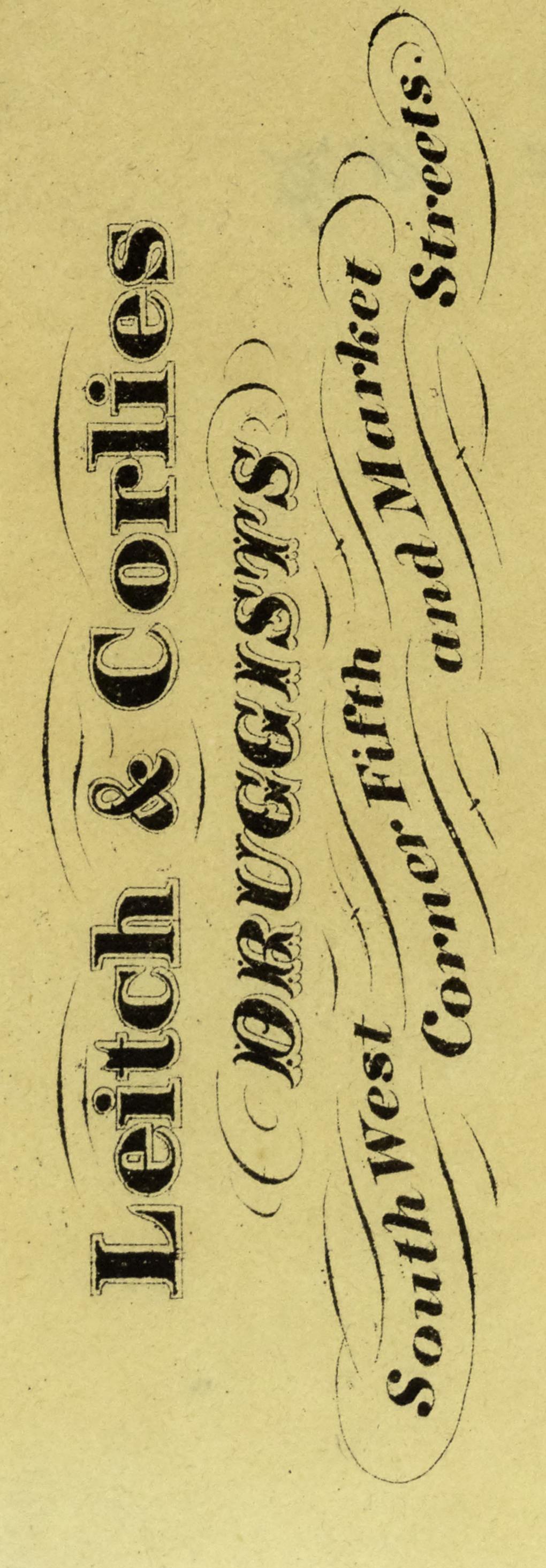
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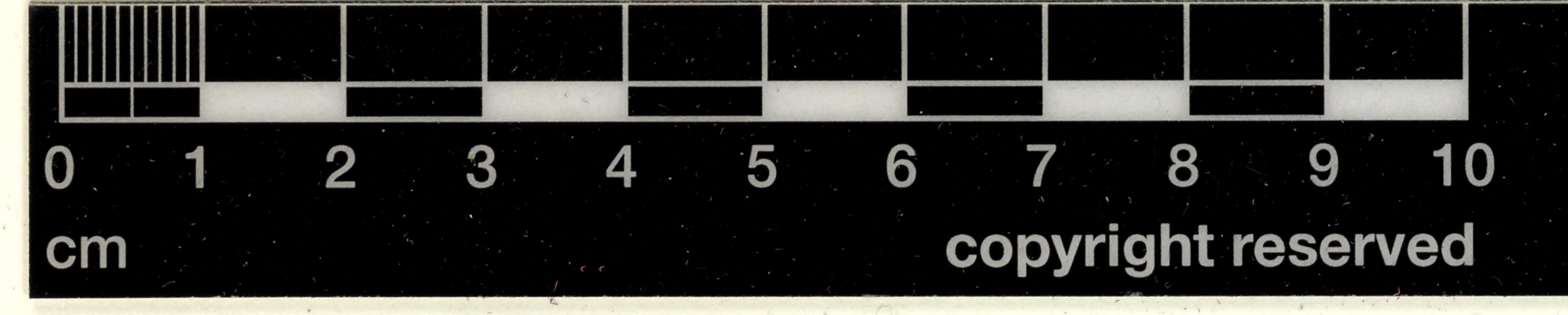


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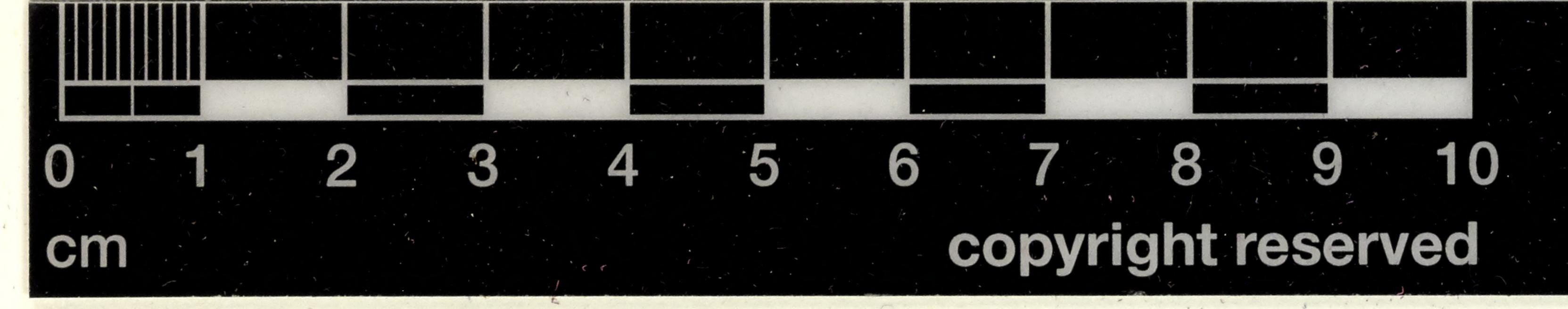




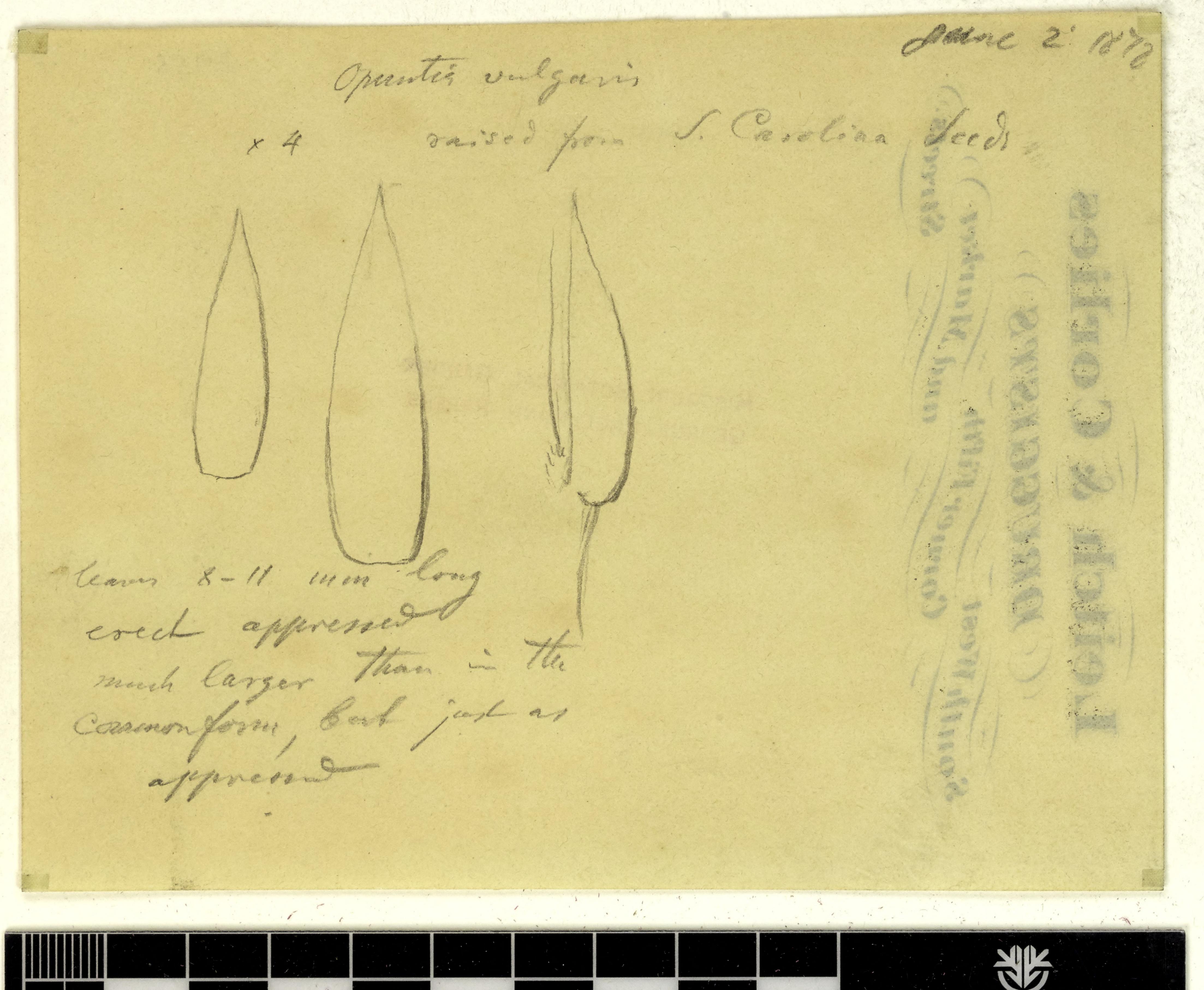
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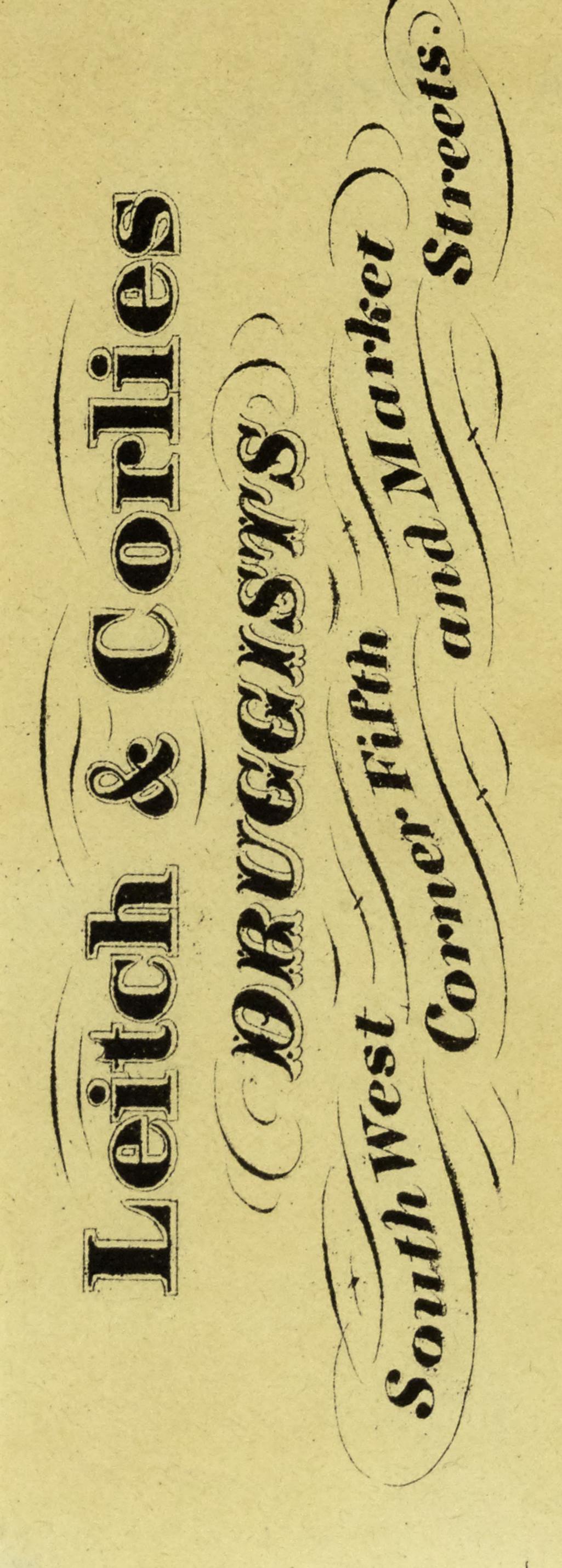
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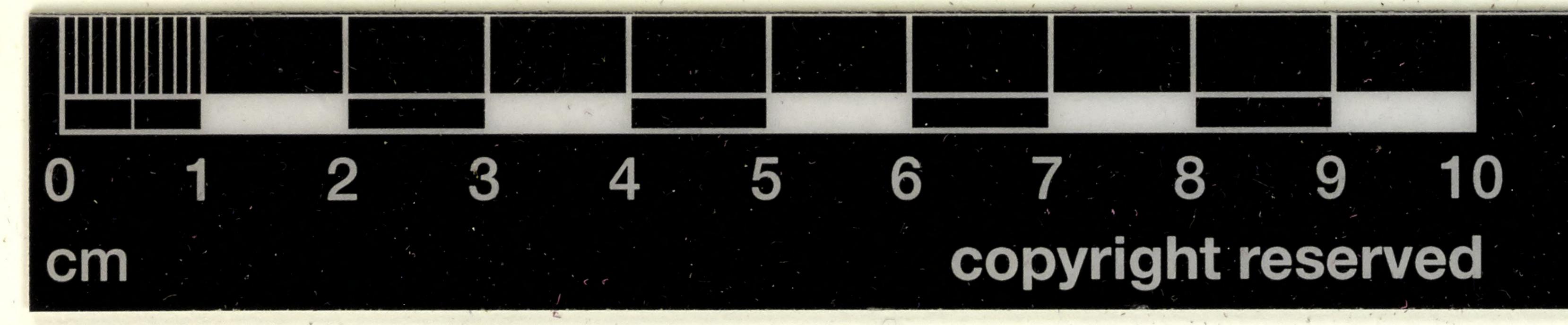


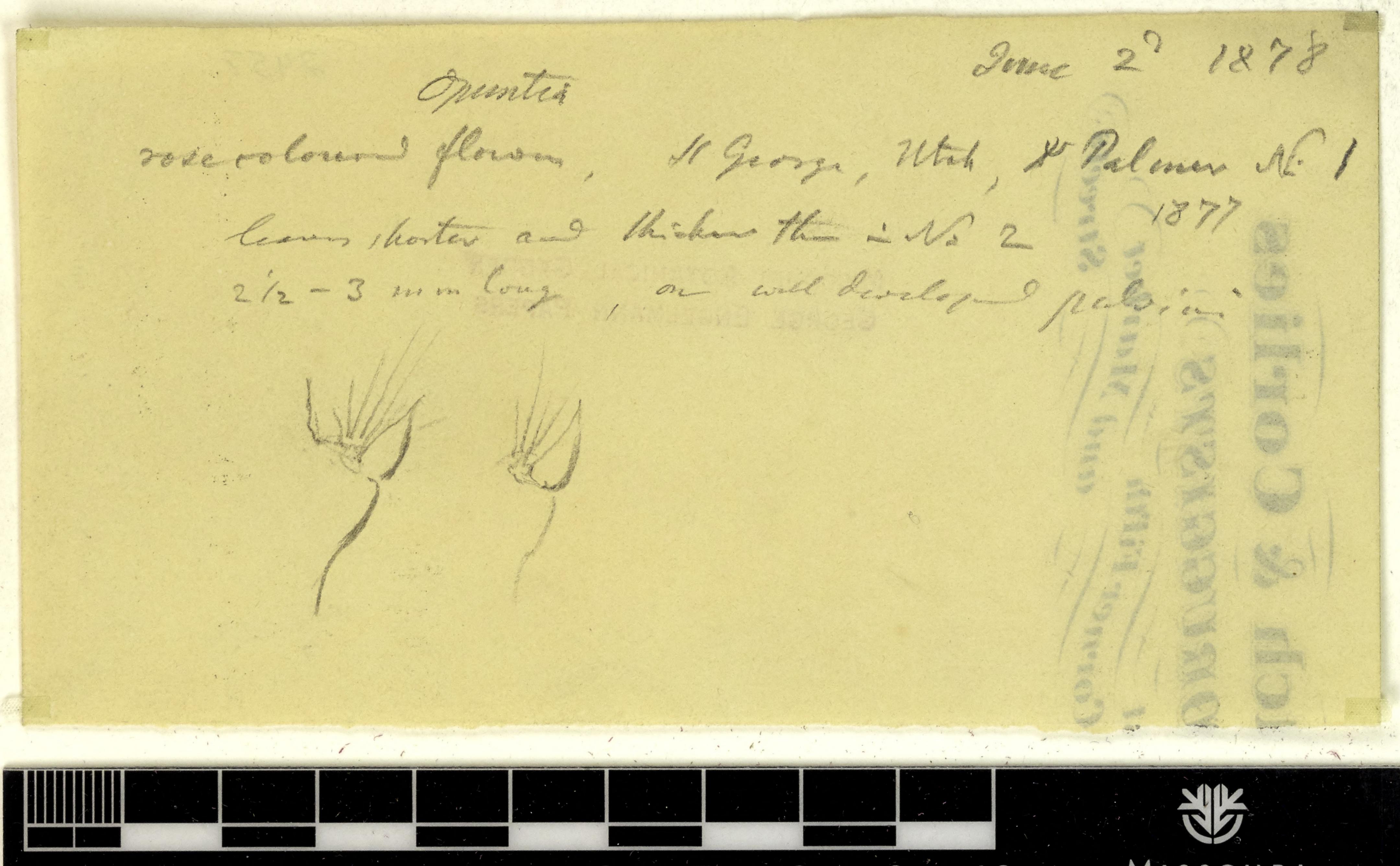


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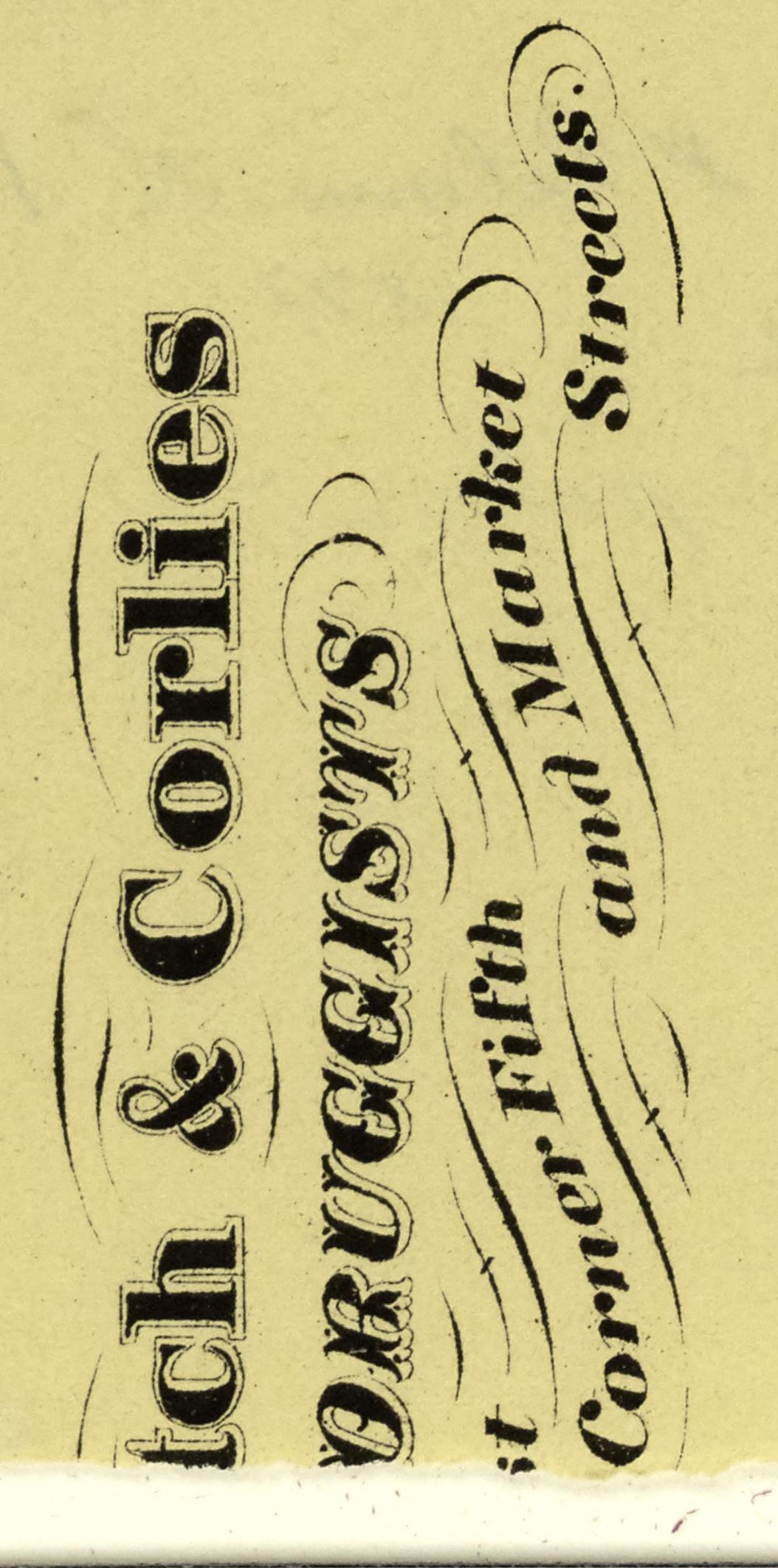


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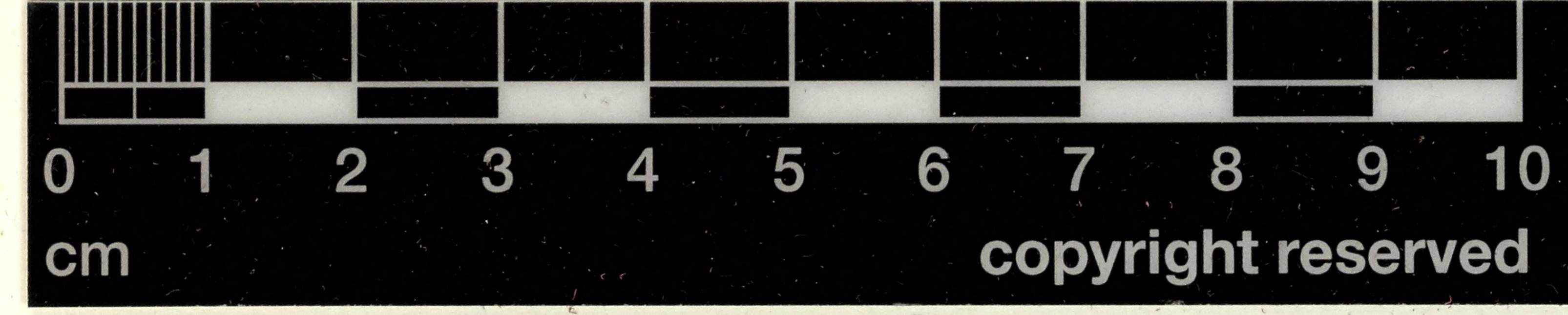




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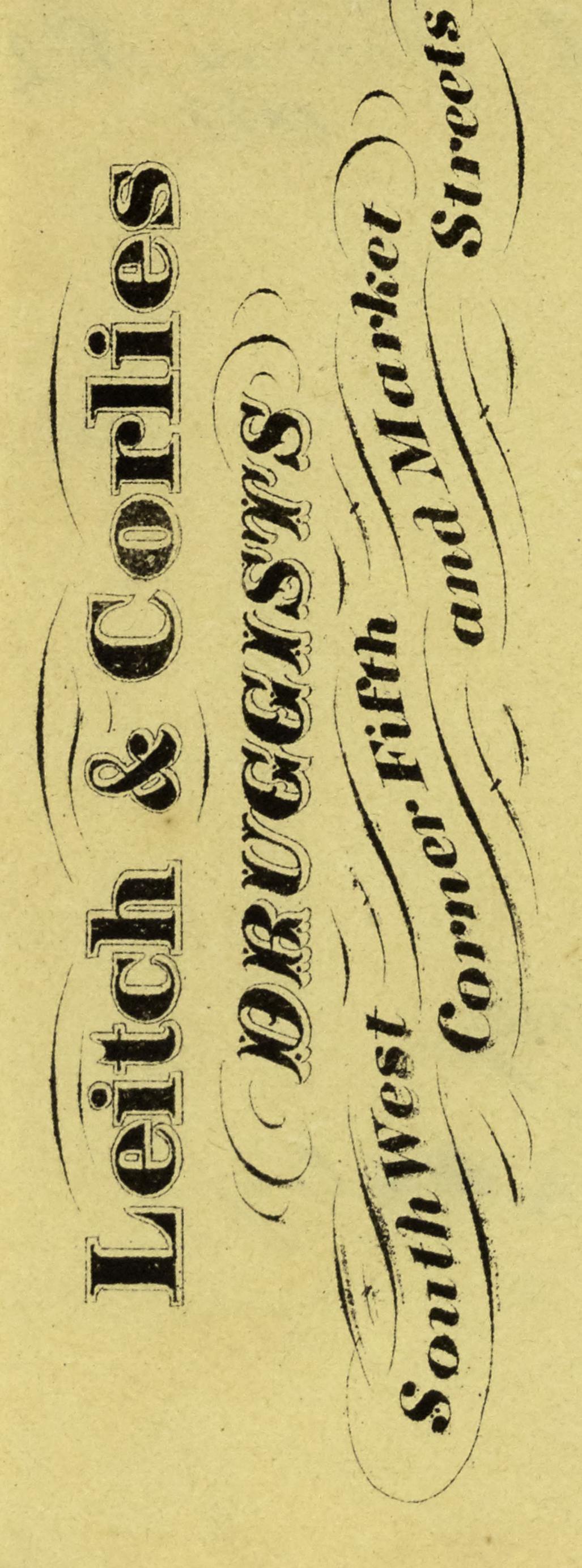
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